

1. (Currently Amended) A method of authenticating an electronic device, the electronic device having device specific identifying data stored therein, the method comprising:

issuing a plurality of random challenges to the electronic device and receiving a plurality of responses from the electronic device, wherein each random challenge and corresponding response represents a challenge response pair which is unique and based upon specific identifying data of the electronic device;

~~obtaining a previously determined one of the challenge response pair-pairs~~
associated with the electronic device, ~~the challenge response pair being unique and based upon the device specific identifying data of the electronic device;~~

communicating a challenge portion of the challenge response pair to the electronic device;

receiving from the electronic device a response to the challenge portion, wherein the response being based upon the device specific identifying information; ~~and~~

comparing the response to a response portion of the challenge response pair ~~to authenticate the user; and~~

authenticating the user if the response matches.

2. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein the step of obtaining ~~a one of the~~ challenge response ~~pair-pairs~~ comprises obtaining from a database store of challenge response pairs the challenge response pair.

3. Cancelled.

4. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the step of obtaining a challenge response pair comprises obtaining a challenge response pair from a challenge response pair broker.

5. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the device specific identifying data comprises data stored on a subscriber identity module (SIM) card associated with the electronic device, or computed by the SIM card upon demand.

6. (Original) The method of claim 1, comprising the step of discarding the challenge response pair after use.

7. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the step of obtaining a challenge response pair comprises obtaining via a secure communication interface the challenge response pair.

8. (Currently Amended) A system for device authentication comprising:
an agent for interrogating an electronic device to obtain at least one challenge response pair through issuance of a plurality of random challenges to the electronic device and receiving a plurality of responses from the electronic device, wherein each random challenge and corresponding response represents a challenge response pair which

is unique and, ~~the challenge response pair being~~ based upon device specific identifying data retained within the electronic device;

a memory for storing the challenge response pair; and

an agent for providing the challenge response pair from the memory to a user

which ~~of the challenge response pair for authenticating~~ authenticates an electronic device by communicating a challenge portion of the challenge response pair to the electronic device, receiving from the electronic device a response to the challenge portion, wherein the response being based upon the device specific identifying information, comparing the response to a response portion of the challenge response pair; and authenticating the user if the response matches.

9. (Original) The system of claim 8, wherein the device specific identifying data comprises subscribed identity module (SIM) card data from a SIM card within the electronic device.

10. (Original) The system of claim 9, wherein the user comprises a service provider having a need to authenticate the electronic device.

11. (Original) The system of claim 10, wherein the agent for interrogating and the agent for providing are associated with the service provider.

12. Cancelled.

13. (Original) The system of claim 8, wherein the agent for providing the challenge response pair comprises a challenge response pair broker.

14. (Currently Amended) A method of providing an authentication service comprising the steps of:

obtaining from an electronic device a plurality of challenge response pairs through issuance of a plurality of random challenges to the electronic device and receiving a plurality of responses from the electronic device, wherein each random challenge and corresponding response represents a challenge response pair which is unique and ~~the challenge response pairs having a challenge portion and a response portion, the response portion being~~ based upon the challenge and device specific identifying data associated with the electronic device;

storing the challenge response pairs; and

providing responsive to a request for an authentication service a challenge response pair to a service provider for authenticating the electronic device by communicating a challenge portion of the challenge response pair to the electronic device, receiving from the electronic device a response to the challenge portion, wherein the response being based upon the device specific identifying information, comparing the response from the electronic device to a response portion of the challenge response pair, and authenticating the user if the response matches..

15. (Original) The method of claim 14, wherein the step of obtaining from an electronic device a plurality of challenge response pairs comprises generating from a

subscribed identify module (SIM) card a plurality of challenge response pairs and providing the SIM card to a user of the electronic device.

16. (Original) The method of claim 14, wherein the step of providing response to a request for an authentication service a challenge response pair comprises vending the challenge response pair.

17. (Original) The method of claim 14, wherein the step of providing response to a request for an authentication service a challenge response pair comprises securely communicating the challenge response pair to the service provider.